President.—The question whether he has been convicted or not requires to be determined.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Was not that petition signed by many respectable persons of the locality? When was the complaint made? I want the date of the complaint.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I want notice.

The inspection of the Panchayats by the Superintendent.

45. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state why, of all the Panchayats, the Superintendent visited 14 times in 1100 the Vilvattam Panchayat and the Ayyantole Panchayat, while the majority of the Panchayats were visited by him only once in the course of the year, and while some were neglected even of this privilege?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—There were three important irrigation works in Ayyantole and four in Vilvattam which required the Superintendent's constant supervision.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—There were three important irrigation works in Ayyanthole and four in Vilvattam. Whenever he goes to visit the irrigation works, are we to understand that he visits the respective Panchayats also?

President.—What is the question? You put the question in this way. "And are we to understand that, whenever the Superintendent goes for the inspection of the irrigation works, does he inspect the Panchayats also?"

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—That is my point.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Whether he means the Panchayats or the Panchayat offices, I do not understand.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Panchayat offices.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Not always.

President.—He does it whenever it is possible for him to do so.

The resolution passed by the Panchayats in Adur.

46. Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received the resolution passed by the members of all the four Panchayats in the constituency of Adur and submitted on 3rd February 1926? If so, what steps have been taken by the Government on these resolutions?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Yes. The matter is under consideration.

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Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—The reply given is that the matter is under consideration. May I know under whose consideration, of the Government or of the Panchayat Superintendent? For the answer is given by the latter.

President—It is only sent for report, and the enquiry of this is pending.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Let me know how much more delay will there be, at least, approximately?

President.—I like to avoid such questions. Rest assured that delay will be avoided, as far as it is possible.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—In some cases the Government is in a position to answer such questions. If a date had been fixed in the answer, it would have been all right.

The resolution passed by the Varandarappalli Panchayat.

47. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased

(a) to lay on the table a copy of the resolution passed by the Varandarappalli Panchayat regarding a *chira* in the river in 1100, and also to state what action they have taken in the matter up till now;

(b) to state whether there was any request for the same *chira* this year, whether they accorded sanction to it and the reasons for not putting up the *chira* till now?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(a) Please see Appendix I for a copy of the resolution. The estimate for the work passed by the Panchayat was found to be excessive. A fresh one for a less amount was got prepared, and the work carried out through a Panchayat member.

(b) There was a request, and sanction was given to put up the *chira*. A reference was, however, made to the Panchayat whether they would undertake the construction on condition of payment after the maintenance season. This safe-guard had to be thought of as the *chira* put up in 1100 was illicitly cut open, and the local people hardly evinced any interest in getting at the culprits. No reply was received from the Panchayat till 10th Kumbham 1101 when the period for putting up the *chira* passed.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—How can the Panchayats undertake to do it? Their responsibility ceases, as soon as the construction is done according to the estimate.

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